

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047981

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US

SUBJECT: REPORT FROM LUANDA: FOUR DAYS IN FEBRUARY

REF: A) LAGOS 1955; B) LAGOS 2218

1. DEPARTMENT VERY APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR REPORT AND PERCEPTIONS PERTAINING TO BROAD RANGE OF ANGOLAN SUBJECTS. WE WILL EXPLORE YOUR SUGGESTION (PARA. 14) THAT USEFUL INFORMATION-GATHERING VISITS BY USG OFFICIALS MIGHT BE ARRANGED. WE ARE POUCHING MAPS REQUESTED.

2. AWARE THAT OUR LACK OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN LUANDA SEVERELY RESTRICTS OUR ACCESS TO CURRENT, FIRST HAND INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY SOUGHT AND RECEIVED AGREEMENT OF A NUMBER OF FRIENDLY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO INCREASE BILATERAL FLOWS OF INFORMATION RELATED TO ANGOLAN AFFAIRS.

3. WE BELIEVE YOUR REPORT WOULD SERVE WELL AS CONTRIBUTION TO THOSE EXCHANGES AND, IF YOU HAVE NO OBJECTION, PROPOSE
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TO SHARE IT VIA OUR EMBASSIES WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, DENMARK, PORTUGAL, AND SWEDEN, AS WELL AS EC COMMISSION. WE WOULD

AMEND IT SLIGHTLY TO PROTECT ITS AUTHORSHIP AND OFFICIAL ORIGIN, TO ELIMINATE SOME PORTIONS WHICH WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATED FOR SHARING, AND TO REFLECT ANY FURTHER

CONSIDERATIONS YOU MAY WISH TO OFFER. IN PARTICULAR, WE WOULD DRAW ON PARAS 2 THROUGH 7, 9 (PERTAINING TO MPLA POLITICS), 11 AND 13. PARA. 4 WOULD ELIMINATE REFERENCE TO WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL ON NAMIBIA WHICH COMPRISES POSSIBLE TIP-OFF AS TO AUTHOR. PARA 7 WOULD ELIMINATE REFERENCE TO SOVIET BUGGING OF TELEPHONES; PARA. 9 WOULD CONCEAL SOURCES OF VIEWS CONTAINED THEREIN; PARA. 11 WOULD NOT DETAIL U.S. OIL FIRMS EXPANSION PLANS; NOR WOULD PARA 13 SPELL OUT BOEING OPERATIONS.

4. REQUEST YOUR VIEWS.

5. COMMENT REQUESTED REF B WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL. VANCE

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